

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-8 and 14-20 are still pending in the present application. Reexamination and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

First, it appears that the office action did not include any action on claims 14-19. Claim 20 had been previously allowed. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14-19 are allowable for the reasons set forth in the Amendment dated January 11, 2008. In addition, if the Examiner were to decide to issue any rejections against claims 14-20, Applicant respectfully submits that the next office action should not be made final for this reason.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by USP 6,830,170 to Abel ("Abel"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the at least one opening provided in the sidewall defined by the covering is sized to allow a ball to pass therethrough. See the openings 60 as referred to on page 4, lines 30-32.

In contrast, the openings in Abel's mesh are not sized to allow a ball to pass therethrough. In addition, it would not be obvious to modify Abel's mesh to provide openings that are sized to allow a ball to pass therethrough because Abel is directed to a decoy bag for holding hunting supplies and accessories. As a storage basket, it would not be desirable for a storage basket to have openings through which stored items can escape or fall out of. Thus, claim 1, and claims 2-8 depending therefrom, are allowable over Abel.

In light of the above, allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there are any amendments that are needed to place this application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Date: July 16, 2008

By: 
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